

Attorney's Docket No. 5577-129CT

**PATENT** 

#2/A 3-21-02 M.L.

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re: Nally et al.

Serial No.: To be assigned Filed: Concurrently herewith

For: METHODS, SYSTEMS AND COMPUTER PROGRAM PRODUCTS FOR

CONTROLLING VARIABLES ASSOCIATED WITH TRANSACTIONS IN A

MULTIPLE TRANSACTION ENVIRONMENT

Date: February 14, 2002

BOX PATENT APPLICATION Commissioner for Patents Washington, DC 20231

## PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Sir:

Applicants submit the present Preliminary Amendment to cancel claims which are in condition for allowance in the parent application. Applicants have provided a copy of the amendments showing the changes entitled "VERSION WITH MARKINGS SHOWING CHANGES" which is attached hereto.

Please amend the above-identified application as follows:

## In the Specification:

On page 1 of the application, please add the following section after the Title:

## **Related Applications**

The present application is a continuation of, and claims priority from, United States Patent Application Serial No. 09/223,254, filed December 30, 1998 and entitled METHODS, SYSTEMS AND COMPUTER PROGRAM PRODUCTS FOR CONTROLLING VARIABLES ASSOCIATED WITH TRANSACTIONS IN A MULTIPLE TRANSACTION ENVIRONMENT, the disclosure of which is incorporated herein by reference as if set forth fully herein.

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 16, line 29 with the following:

The present invention may also be utilized in systems such as those described in commonly assigned United States Patent Application Serial No. 09/001,980, entitled TECHNIQUE FOR MANAGING OBJECTS WHICH ARE THE TARGET OF MULTIPLE

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